



# BIBLE STUDENTS' COMMITTEE FOR AFRICA

Newsletter

Winter 2024

## Greetings from the BSCFA

As we see continued unrest in the world, we want to be educated by the word of God and not by current public sentiment or by political opinions. You ask, how is this to be accomplished? This can be accomplished through personal and ecclesia studies. (2 Tim 2 :15; Heb 10:25) The horrific events of October 7, 2023, continue to polarize people. This is not like the debate over the COVID vaccinations. These are protests that have turned violent. As we see antisemitism rise, we need to make sure we are educated on the history of Israel and how it relates to the word of God and his plan for the restoration of the world of mankind.

We are living in a difficult period of history, the culmination of the harvest of the gospel age and it is critical that we have both a scriptural and an accurate historical

response to the questions at hand. Be not like those who do not know how to accurately handle the word of truth and are easily swayed. Be diligent in your study of the word of God, which is the mind of Jehovah, and be able to give a scriptural answer to those who are questioning the current world trouble. (1 Thessalonians 5:3-4)

Zoom has been a blessing. Although nothing takes the place of in-person fellowship, Zoom gives us access to brethren that we might never have the opportunity to meet in person. It allows for deeper discussion in our one room school house. We learn from others, continue to participate in studies, and be a blessing to all with whom we come in contact.

Bro. Bill Dutka, *Chairman BSCFA*



**Group Photograph of Nigerian General Convention Attendees**

# WEST AFRICA

## Nigeria

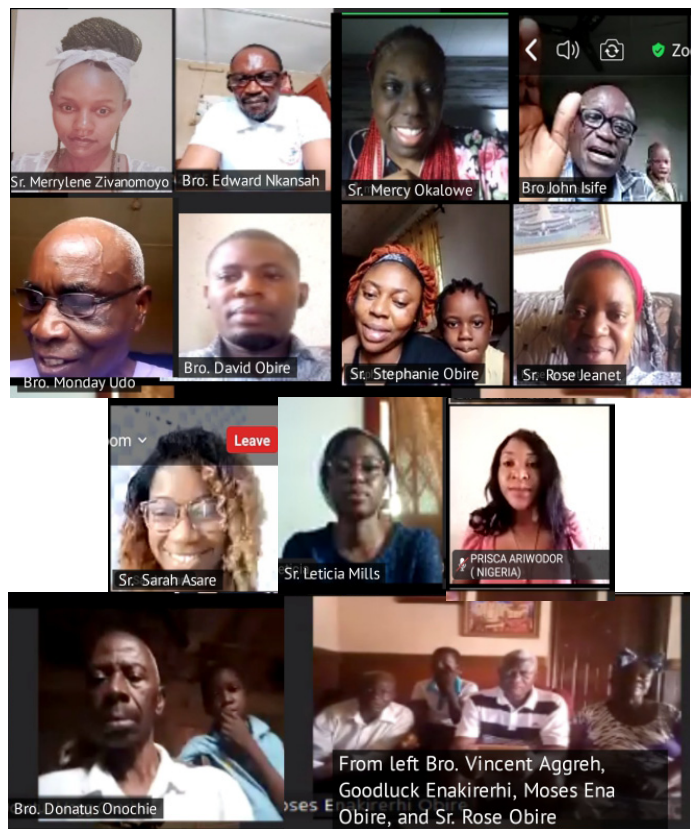
The Nigeria Bible Students Ecclesias Mission Servants' General Convention was held from Friday, 25 – Sunday, August 27. Its theme was “Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God; and every one that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God.” Fifteen ecclesias were represented in person and messages of love were sent by four others which were not present because of high transportation costs. Discourses were provided by twelve brethren; five others chaired the various sessions and there was one testimony leader. One brother and nine sisters symbolized their consecrations and two brethren conducted the immersion service. Other highlights of this gathering included a Question Meeting panel as well as three Biblical films related to prophecy and Christ, our Messiah.

## Ughelli Convention

Bro. Emmanuel Jackson summarized this gathering which occurred on Saturday, November 25, 2023 as follows. During the first session there were three discourses in addition to the welcome address. Following refreshments, the evening portion featured a Question Meeting panel as well as a Testimony Meeting. The twenty in-person attendees were blessed by this experience.

## Agbarho Bible Students

Bro. Moses Obire reports the following concerning the group's second convention this year. It occurred on Saturday, November 11, 2023. The theme was Romans 12:1. Six brethren spoke on various portions of Romans chapter 12. A Testimony Meeting provided encouragement for the friends who participated from diverse locations globally.



Attendees at Agbarho Convention



Ughelli Convention Attendees



**Ibadan Convention Attendees**

**Ibadan**

The ecclesia’s end of year Thanksgiving Convention was held on Saturday and Sunday, December 3 and 4, 2023. Its theme was “Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.” (Ephesians 5:20) Six brethren gave discourses and two of the friends conducted the immersion service as one brother and six sisters symbolized their consecrations. Two of the saints chaired Testimony Meetings during which time many wonderful expressions of encouragement were given. We are extremely thankful to all who contributed

to the success of this gathering.

**Cameroon**

Bro. Alex Mokom referencing Acts 16: 27-34 shares the following experience he enjoyed in November 2023 during a visit to his home by representatives of the Department of Penitentiary Prisons in the East Region of the country. Citing John 3:16 as well as Luke 3:14 and Matthew 28:15 Bro. Alex indicated he was privileged for an invitation to preach the gospel on Sundays and to interact with the soldiers at regular intervals.



**Brother Alex Mokom with Prison Guards**

## Togo

Bro. Sergino Kpoedzou reports that the class continues public witness activities on Saturdays and having completed proofreading Volume 2 in the French language. The friends have commenced doing the same for Volume 3.



**Ecclesia Members  
Proofreading the Volumes**

## Liberia

Bro. Nicholas Toe expressed the following. “Although we have experienced heavy rains, I was pleased to deliver a copy of the HTSB and other materials to Mohammed Soh with whom I have telephone Bible studies since he lives relatively close to my



**Bro. Nicholas with Mohammed Soh**

residence.”

## Ghana

On November 18, 2023 the Lord blessed the brethren in Ghana and around Africa with a convention which was well attended and participated by brethren globally. The day began with a discourse titled “Verily, Verily” by Bro. Nicholas Charcharos from the United Kingdom which considered all the places in the scriptures our Master used this expression and drew lessons from them. There were two panel discussions also. The first panel was moderated by Bro. Brian Montague from the United States with the following brethren serving as panelists: Bros. Emmanuel Jackson from Nigeria, Jerome Rogers from Ghana, Nicholas Toe from Liberia and Laban Ssewanya from Uganda. This panel discussed three general questions which were about the Lord’s Memorial, Leadership in the Ecclesia and the war in heaven based on Revelation 12. The discussion was followed by contributions from brethren in attendance. The second panel discussion was moderated by Bro. John Bivol with the following brethren as panel members: Bros. Isaiah Amoo from Ghana, Cajetan Egbu from Nigeria as well as Sergino Kpoedzou from Togo. The discussion was based on Proverbs, of which verse 3 served as the theme text for the convention. Based on the testimonies shared, which were moderated by Bro. Homer Montague from the United States, and discussions during the spiritual fellowship sessions, this gathering was indeed a blessing to all who participated. We look forward to more similar feasting from the Lord’s table. (Bro. Noah Amoo)



**Servants at Ghana Year End Convention**

**Pilgrim Service Report**

Bro. Edward Nkansah of the Kumasi Ecclesia is involved in a variety of pilgrim activities in various sections of Ghana. Here is a portion of his report during November. “This was a very busy month for me because in addition to other personal responsibilities, on the 11th of November I served via Zoom at Bro. Moses Obire’s class convention in Nigeria, and the following week was the Kumasi class

convention which was on the 18th. Prior to my visit to Accra on the 26th, I met three times with the new friends in Accra through WhatsApp based on “God’s Grand Plan of the Ages.” Sr. Sarah Asare and I left early on that date, traveling for several hours to fellowship with them. The weather was very cloudy and only three were present. Later, Bro. Kenneth left after receiving a phone call. After seeing the two of them off while raining, we rested and left Accra the following day for home. Unlike previously,

we are seeing much seriousness in a few individuals and although they might desire to consecrate, we don't force any to do that when they are not ready. Nevertheless, we continue to pray for them. Lord willing, next month I will be in Cape Coast 2nd and 3rd December and in Dunkwa 8th to 10th December. Lord bless."



**Report of Ghana Pilgrim Service Activities**

## **EAST AFRICA**

### **Rwanda**

Throughout this year, we have been blessed to serve the Lord in the truth with public gatherings and normal meetings as well. We are actively engaged in witnessing as the opportunity presents itself. (Bro. Silver Mugisha)



**Brethren in Nyagatare Class Enjoying Lunch Break**

### **Uganda**

The Wakiso Ecclesia is very grateful for the support it has received towards laboring in the Lord's vineyard. As an ecclesia, we have completed several portions of the harvest message, and as individuals, engage in personal studies utilizing the Volumes, Reprints and various Bible lessons to equip those who are involved in witness efforts. Opportunities have been provided for witness efforts beyond our own class and we appreciate some of the fruitage that is apparent. (Bro Laban Ssewanya)



**Srs. Nalubega and Farida Using Audio Equipment**

## **SOUTHERN AFRICA**

### **South Africa Ecclesia**

The South Africa Ecclesia held a one-day General Convention on September 30, 2023. Its main theme was "To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcome, and set down with my Father in His throne." (Revelation 3:21) The program included a symposium on 2 Corinthians 5:20 moderated by Bro. Edward Nkansah. Others who served included Bros. Cajetan Egbu, Khurrsino Miranda and Moses Obire. Bro. Matt Kerry moderated our first panel based upon Psalm 133:1. Bros. Deepan Pari, Jerome Rogers and Nicholas Toe were panelists. Bro. John Bivol moderated a second panel based upon Galatians 3:28. Those who served with him were Bros. Noah Amoo and Eliezer Jjuuko. A testimony led by Bro. Brendan Getchel



### South Africa Convention Servants

and a Devotional Service conducted by Bro. Isaiah Amoo concluded a very profitable day for which we were most grateful. (Bro. Israel Loji)

### International Sisters' Gathering 2023

On Saturday November 4, 2023 approximately 72 participants representing 13 countries gathered online to praise, honor and glorify our Heavenly Father. Sisters from Kenya, Cameroon, Ghana, Nigeria, Zimbabwe, South Africa, Togo, Liberia, India, Romania, Germany, Canada, and the USA gathered to sing hymns, offer testimonies, read Scriptures, consider Bible lessons, and share God honoring poetry together, all aiming to encourage one another in love and good works, as in Hebrews 10:24. The theme of Matthew 24:12,13 was considered. "Because of the increase of wickedness, the love of most

will grow cold, but the one who stands firm to the end will be saved." (NIV) Sisters discussed ways to stay faithful to the end. We must strive to keep our love for God and His creation burning fervently, rather than cooling due to the widespread evil we see. We look to Jesus Christ our Lord and example, as we remember our well founded hope afar off. We aim to keep our prayer connection to God continually strong. We discussed the thought, which has been shared by brethren, of thinking of someone who may have harmed us as though they were our own child; for we may possibly, if faithful, be instrumental in helping such a person up the highway of holiness in the Kingdom if we are faithful. We would want to assist that individual, remembering Jesus died for all, for their highest and best spiritual well being, as best we can. We remember that we are called to love our



## Report of International Sisters' Gathering

enemies, hating only the sin. We can request forgiveness through Christ if we are forgiving. This yearly gathering of sisters across the globe with the goal of connecting,

encouraging, comforting and building one another up as sisters in Christ was a blessing and an uplift for which we thank our heavenly Father. Hebrews 10:23 (NLT), "Let us hold tightly without wavering to the hope we affirm, for God can be trusted to keep his promise." May we all press on faithfully with cheerful patient endurance to the end. May our love for God, and His truth, Jesus Christ, our brethren and humanity continue to increase. The loving and harmonious spiritual family God is nurturing in His new creation starts on this side of the veil. God is doing His part, and He continually works in each of us giving us the ability to do ours. The viewable link is available at:

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/14u3-A-0qfFbAM44kHctcREgFM9ibOfNZ/view?usp=share\\_link](https://drive.google.com/file/d/14u3-A-0qfFbAM44kHctcREgFM9ibOfNZ/view?usp=share_link)  
(Sr. Carina Butler)

## Pan African Convention

Lord willing, plans are in place for the 2024 Pan African Convention to be held at the Presbyterian Women's Center in Ghana during the interval of Saturday morning, March 30 – Tuesday, April 2 at noon. Most of the brethren from North America who have expressed an interest in attending have already affirmed their intention to be present but if such is the case and you have not done so, kindly send an email to [Montags3ny@aol.com](mailto:Montags3ny@aol.com) with your flight information and the word "YES" in the subject line by January 10, 2024. Shortly after that date, you will receive information regarding costs for accommodations, meals, airport pickup/

departures, visas, etc. which you will need to know.

## Our Lord's Memorial Sunday, April 21, 2024 (after 6:00 p.m.)

Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us; therefore, let us keep the feast. `1 Cor. 5:7, 8`

WHAT a meaning is in these words when seen in connection with the Memorial Supper as the remembrancer of the Jewish Passover! How the light of the type illuminates the antitype! As the firstborn of Israel were exposed to death, so "the church of the firstborn whose names are written in heaven" are now on trial for life or death everlasting. As then all the typical firstborn were safe so long as they remained in the house and ate of the lamb whose blood was sprinkled upon the doorposts and lintel, so we who abide in the household of faith under the better "blood of sprinkling" and who eat of our Passover Lamb, Jesus, are safe from death--sure of life everlasting under God's providence. We do not now recognize the typical lamb, but instead Jesus, "the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world." On him we feed; not eating his flesh literally, but by faith partaking of the merit of his sacrifice and appropriating it to ourselves. All through this night of the Gospel age do we thus feast on our Lamb--until the morning of the Millennium, when we shall be delivered. The annual Memorial Supper is not our feast, but an illustration or archetype of it--a remembrancer--most beautiful, most solemn, helpful. Let us keep the feast of faith and also the Memorial Supper. `Z'08-37`

## BSCFA Board of Directors

The current Board of Directors for the Bible Students' Committee for Africa is as follows:

Chairman: Bro. Bill Dutka

Secretary: Sr. Sandy Koterba

Treasurer: Bro. Austin Williams

Other Board members include Bros. Richard Doctor, Joe Dolan, Lee Hicks, Brian Montague, Homer Montague and Sr. Leah (Ruggirello) Einhorn

*Newsletter items as well as fully tax deductible donations may be sent to:*

**Bible Students Committee for Africa**  
P.O. Box 111, West Hempstead, NY 11552